29th November 1928]

Report on the large consumption of opium in the East Godavari district.

* 819 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the committee appointed to enquire into the causes of large consumption of opium in the East Godavari district has sent its report;

(b) if so, whether the same will be placed on the table of the House; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take any and if so, what action on the report?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes; when orders have been passed on the report.

(c) The Government are awaiting a further communication on the subject from the Government of India.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I know when the report of the committee was submitted to Government?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"Which committee?"

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"The committee that was appointed to enquire into the causes of large consumption of opium in the East Godavari district?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"That report is now under the consideration of Government. The matter is under correspondence with the Government of India."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Will it be placed on the table of the House?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"There is the answer in print that, when orders have been passed on the report, it will be placed."

Medical

Appointment of lady medical officers to the hospitals at Cuddalore and other places.

* 820 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there are no lady medical officers attached to the Government Headquarter Hospital at Cuddalore and to the Government hospitals at Tindivanam, Kallakurichi and Villupuram;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there are no lady medical officers attached to the Local Fund and Municipal medical institutions at Cuddalore Old Town, Nellikuppam, Panrutti, Mannargudi, Porto Novo, Gingee, Sankarapuram, Vriddhachalam and Tirukkoyilur and that no provision has been made for the gosha women and children in these centres where Muslim population is considerable; and

(c) whether the Government will take steps for the early appointment of lady medical officers to the several aforesaid hospitals under their control and to those under the control of the local and municipal bodies and see that necessary and suitable arrangements are made for affording facilities for medical attendance and treatment of gosha women and children in the centres aforementioned?

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A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the second part, the existing provision for medical relief in these stations is intended for the benefit of the men, women and children of all communities who wish to avail themselves of it.

(*c*) The question of employing a lady medical officer in the Government Headquarter Hospital, Cuddalore, is under consideration. As regards the other Government hospitals in the South Arcot district referred to in the question the employment of lady doctors is not considered immediately necessary. It is for the local bodies to take the initiative in the matter of the employment of lady doctors in medical institutions maintained by them.

Government contribution to the Cole Dispensary and the Missionary Medical School for Women at Vellore.

* 821 Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of contribution which the Government are annually making to the Missionary Medical School for Women and to the Cole Dispensary, Vellore;

(*b*) whether there is a proposal to make a grant for raising the medical school to a college, and if so, what is the grant proposed;

(*c*) whether the patients resorting to the Cole Dispensary are charged consultation fees, admission fees, etc., as in private institutions; if so, what is the income of this dispensary from that source for the years 1924 to 1928; and

(*d*) if the answer to the first part of (*c*) is in the affirmative, what is the object of the Government in subsidizing the Cole Dispensary?

A.—(*a*) The Government give an annual grant to the Medical School for Women, Vellore, calculated at the rate of Rs. 190 for each pupil from the Madras Presidency studying in the school during the year, subject to a maximum of Rs. 10,000.

No grant is paid to the Cole Dispensary, Vellore.

(*b*) A non-recurring grant of one-half of the actual expenditure, subject to a maximum of Rs. 5 lakhs has been sanctioned in connexion with the scheme for the establishment of a combined hospital and medical college for women. No proposal for a recurring grant is under consideration.

(*c*) The Government have no information.

(*d*) The question does not arise.

Dr. B. S. Mallayya:—"May I know from the hon. the Minister whether the students trained in this Medical School for women are from the Indian States, a majority of them; and not from this Presidency?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar:—"There are some students from Indian States, but not a majority of them."

Dr. B. S. Mallayya:—"Is it the duty of Government to pay for the pupils coming from Indian States?"